

1 commissioned a second lieutenant after Infantry Officer Candidate
2 School at Fort Benning, Georgia and spent twenty-five years in
3 Special Forces units; and

4 WHEREAS, Governor Gaston Caperton appointed Allen E. Tackett as
5 the state's Adjutant General in 1995 and when Adjutant General
6 Tackett retires on January 31, 2011, with over forty-eight years of
7 service to his credit, he will be the longest-serving Adjutant
8 General in the nation; and

9 WHEREAS, Adjutant General Tackett has overseen more than \$780
10 million in military construction in West Virginia. He also played
11 a critical role in the 2005 fight to block the Base Realignment and
12 Closure Commission from closing the 130th Airlift Wing at Yeager
13 Airport; and

14 WHEREAS, Members of the state's Army and Air National Guard
15 units serve all over the world, and in times of trouble, all over
16 West Virginia as well. Those units are highly valued by their
17 fellow citizens. But even more so by their commander. Adjutant
18 General Tackett cherishes the introduction of the West Virginia
19 National Guard's tuition assistance program. In return for
20 six-year enlistment agreements, it helps soldiers and airmen cover
21 college expenses; and

22 WHEREAS, Record numbers of West Virginia Army and Air National
23 Guard soldiers made the transition to active duty status during his
24 tenure, to serve in Iraq, Afghanistan and other global hotspots;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, Adjutant General Tackett has served his country and

1 state with the highest honor and dignity in both times of peace and
2 times of strife; therefore, be it

3 *Resolved by the House of Delegates:*

4 That the House of Delegates recognizes the service, the
5 accomplishments and the honor that Adjutant General Tackett has
6 brought upon his state, his country and his fellow soldiers; and,
7 be it

8 *Further Resolved,* That the Clerk of the House of Delegates
9 forward certified copies of this resolution to the West Virginia
10 Army National Guard's 16th Special Forces Group and Adjutant
11 General Allen E. Tackett.